

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water Quality
Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control (Ground Water)
401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625

FACT SHEET

This fact sheet sets forth the principal facts and the significant factual, legal, and policy considerations examined during preparation of the draft permit.

PERMIT ACTION:

Ground Water Master General Permit Renewal - NJ0130281
Category "T1" - Existing Sanitary Septic Systems

Name and Classification of the Receiving Water:

Shallow Ground Waters of the State
Classes I, II, & III

Description of Eligible Facilities/Sites:

The category of dischargers which can be authorized on a state-wide basis under this "T1" general permit are those which discharge sanitary wastewater to ground water from facilities using subsurface sewage disposal systems, i.e. "septic systems", whose aggregate daily design flow, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:9A, is in excess of 2,000 gallons per day (GPD) per single property. These septic systems receive, treat and dispose of only sanitary wastewater.

Examples of septic systems which may qualify for this permit include septic tanks with seepage pits, disposal fields, leach or tile fields (or an equivalent distribution mechanism); pit latrines; cesspools; dry wells; injection wells and infiltration galleries. These may be regulated under a general permit as they involve the same or substantially similar operations with respect to the nature of the discharge activity, discharge the same type of wastes and engage in similar disposal practices, require the same operating conditions and standards for disposal, require the same monitoring and/or inspections of the system as a first defense against threat to human health and the environment and, in the opinion of the Department are more appropriately controlled under a general permit than under separate, individual permits.

Type of the Wastes, Fluids, or Pollutants:

Sanitary sewage is defined at N.J.A.C. 7:14A-1.2 and means "any liquid waste containing animal or vegetable matter in suspension or solution, or water carried wastes resulting from the discharge of water closets, laundry tubs, washing machines, sinks, dishwashers or any other

source of water carried wastes of human origin or containing putrescible material." This term specifically excludes industrial, hazardous or toxic wastes and materials. However, this permit does allow for the responsible use and discharge of commonly used cleaning products that may enter the septic system.

Previous Time Period of Coverage of the T1 General Permit:

The original T1 permit was issued 01/30/1998, became effective 03/01/1998 and expires 02/28/2003.

Major Changes in the Renewal Permit:

The renewal permit contains four notable changes: 1) All repairs can be performed without approvals from the NJDEP or the local administrative authorities (although written notice must be provided to the NJDEP; 2) all alterations of septic systems shall now be handled by the NJDEP's Bureau of Engineering (previously this duty was shared in part with the local administrative authorities); 3) facilities currently possessing an individual NJPDES-DGW permit may be eligible for the T1 permit on a case-by-case basis; and 4) all septic tanks must be pumped every five years.

Description of Procedures for Reaching a Final Decision on the Draft Action:

Written comments regarding the terms and conditions of this permit may be submitted, by certified mail or other means which provides verification of the date of delivery, to the Chief, Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control at the address cited above. All comments shall be submitted within 30 days of the date of public notice. The Department will respond to all significant and timely comments when a final decision is made. The permittee and each person who has submitted written comments will receive notice of NJDEP's final decision. Any interested person may request in writing that the NJDEP hold a non-adversarial public hearing on the draft document. This request shall state the nature of the issues to be raised in the proposed hearing and shall also be submitted within 30 days of the public notice to the address above. A public hearing will be conducted whenever the NJDEP determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the permit determination. If a public hearing is held, the public comment period is automatically extended to the close of the public hearing.

Contact Person, Bureau, and Phone Number:

Fritz Wise, Principal Environmental Specialist
Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control - (609) 292-0407

Permit Summary Table:

The following items were used to formulate the basis of the draft permit:

1	N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 <i>et seq.</i> , New Jersey Water Pollution Control Act.*
2	N.J.A.C. 7:14A-1 <i>et seq.</i> , New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Regulations.*
3	Statewide Water Quality Management Planning Rules (N.J.A.C. 7:15)
4	Previous Version of this Permit (NJ0130281) Effective 3/1/98 - Expires 2/28/03
5	Ground Water Quality Standards (N.J.A.C. 7:9-6)

*The document is part of the administrative record, but is not physically included in the record.

The discharge described above is a regulated activity under the New Jersey Water Pollution Control Act, N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 *et seq.*, and its implementing regulations, the New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) N.J.A.C. 7:14A-1 *et seq.* The permit has been developed pursuant to these regulations and is based on the administrative record, which contains any permit application submitted, correspondence concerning the permit, the Fact Sheet and documents cited therein, the results of any past monitoring, the draft permit, and any past permits issued to the facility under these regulations.